Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 04353 010707Z ACTION NEA-10

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UNCLAS BEIRUT 4353

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP, LE

SUBJECT: MARKET INFORMATION COVERING CONSTRUCTION AND MINING

EQUIPMENT

REF: USDOC WASHDC 12424.

- 1. LEADING LOCAL BUSINESSES, OFFICIALS AND CONTRACTORS CONSULTED REPORT THAT DUE TO PRESENT UNSTABLE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION CAUSED BY CIVIL DISTURBANCES AND DELAY IN EXPECTED ARAB AND FOREIGN FINANCIALS AIDS, THE MARKET FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENT IS FROZEN UNTIL SITUATION NORMALIZES AND THE STATE CAN BEGIN EXECUTION OF NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION PLANS.
- 2. OFFICIAL STATISTICS ON LEBANON'S IMPORTS OF CONSTRUCTION AND MINING EQUIPMENT NOT AVAILABLE. ABOVE SOURCES REPORT THERE IS LIMITED LOCAL PRODUCTION OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT SUCH AS CONCRETE

MIXERS AND LOW-CAPACITY CRANES. AS FOR MINING EQUIPMENT, SAME SOURCES

ASSERT THAT LEBANON'S CONSUMPTION OF MINING EQUIPMENT IS VERY SMALL, BUT LEBANON IS STILL CONSIDERED TO BE A CENTRAL REGIONAL MARKET OF SUCH EQUIPMENT FOR ARAB AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

3. EMBASSY HOPES TO PROVIDE USDOC WITH MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON LEBANON'S IMPORTS OF VARIOUS CONSTRUCTION AND MINING UNCLASSIFIED

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EQUIPMENT, LEADING SUPPLIERS, U.S. SHARE OF TOTAL IMPORTS, AND MARKET POTENTIAL BY NOVEMBER 1978, THE SITUATION LOCALLY PERMITTING. PARKER

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